



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT

Applicant: Bates, *et al.* Docket No.: ROC920000007US2
Serial No.: 09/759,784 Group Art Unit: 2683
Filed: 01/12/01 Examiner: D'AGOSTA, STEPHEN M.

TITLE: TELEPHONE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY RINGING ONE OR MORE LAND PHONES OR PORTABLE PHONES BASED ON THE SELF-DETECTED GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION OF A PORTABLE PHONE

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Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

In response to the office action dated 4/28/2005, please amend the subject patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 27.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1 1-17 (Cancelled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) A telephone system comprising:

2 (A) a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects the position of
3 the portable phone;

4 (B) at least one defined geographical region defined by a user of the portable
5 phone, each defined geographical region having corresponding phone parameters that
6 determine how a call is rung and routed, wherein the user of the portable phone uses the
7 position detector located in the phone to define the defined geographical region;

8 (C) a mechanism that receives the position of the portable phone from the position
9 detector, and that determines from the position of the portable phone whether the portable
10 phone enters or exits a defined geographical region; and

11 (D) a call router that rings and routes a telephone call according to the phone
12 parameters for a region.

1 19. (Original) The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the position detector comprises
2 a global positioning system (GPS) sensor.

1 20. (Original) The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the at least one geographical
2 region in (B) and the mechanism in (C) reside within the portable phone, and the call
3 router in (D) resides in a telephone company network that is coupled to the portable
4 phone.

1 21. (Original) The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the portable phone
2 communicates its detected position to the call router, and wherein the at least one
3 geographical region in (B), the mechanism in (C), and the call router in (D) reside in a
4 telephone company network that is coupled to the portable phone.

1 22. (Withdrawn) A method for selectively ringing or not ringing a second phone when a
2 call is placed to a portable phone, the method comprising the steps of:
3 the portable phone using an internal position detector to detect its geographical
4 position;
5 defining at least one geographical region;
6 defining phone parameters that determine how a call is rung and routed for each
7 defined geographical region;
8 receiving the position of the portable phone from the position detector;
9 determining from the received position of the portable phone whether the portable
10 phone enters or exits a defined geographical region;
11 updating phone parameters for a geographical region when the portable phone
12 enters the geographical region;
13 updating phone parameters for a geographical region when the portable phone
14 exits the geographical region; and
15 ringing and routing a telephone call according to the phone parameters for a
16 defined geographical region.

1 23-25. (Cancelled)

1 26. (Withdrawn) A method for dynamically defining a region for a portable phone that
2 includes an internal position detector, the method comprising the steps of:
3 (1) placing the portable phone in a dynamic region definition mode;
4 (2) moving the portable phone to a first boundary point;
5 (3) storing the first boundary point as a boundary point for the region as detected
6 by the internal position detector;
7 (4) repeating steps (2) and (3) until all desired boundary points have been entered;
8 and
9 (5) computing a region by connecting the boundary points.

1 27. (Cancelled)

1 28. (Currently amended) The telephone system of claim [[27]] 18 wherein the position
2 detector comprises a global positioning system (GPS) sensor.

1 29. (Previously presented) A telephone system comprising:

2 (A) a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects the position of
3 the portable phone, wherein the position detector comprises a global positioning system
4 (GPS) sensor;

5 (B) at least one defined geographical region defined by a user of the portable
6 phone using the position detector, each defined geographical region having corresponding
7 phone parameters that determine how a call is rung and routed;

8 (C) a mechanism that receives the position of the portable phone from the position
9 detector, and that determines from the position of the portable phone whether the portable
10 phone enters or exits a defined geographical region; and

11 (D) a call router that rings and routes a telephone call according to the phone
12 parameters for a region.

1 30. (Previously presented) The telephone system of claim 29 wherein the at least one
2 geographical region in (B) and the mechanism in (C) reside within the portable phone,
3 and the call router in (D) resides in a telephone company network that is coupled to the
4 portable phone.

1 31. (Previously presented) The telephone system of claim 29 wherein the portable phone
2 communicates its detected position to the call router, and wherein the at least one
3 geographical region in (B), the mechanism in (C), and the call router in (D) reside in a
4 telephone company network that is coupled to the portable phone.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-26 were originally filed in this continuation-in-part patent application. In response to the first office action dated 09/18/03, an amendment was filed on 12/16/03 that cancelled claims 23-25 and amended claims 1 and 10. A final office action was mailed on 1/20/04. In response a Notice of Appeal was filed on 4/20/04, followed by an Appeal Brief on 6/21/04. In response to the Appeal Brief, the Examiner reopened prosecution, and issued a new office action on 7/14/04. In the subsequent amendment, claims 1-7 and 10-15 were cancelled, and claims 8 and 16 were amended. Subsequent to a restriction by the Examiner, Applicant elected to prosecute Group 1, claims 8-9 and 16-21. Claims 22 and 26 were withdrawn from consideration. In the most prior amendment, claims 8-9 and 16-17 were cancelled, claim 18 was amended and claims 27-31 were added. In the pending office action claims 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Syed and Dennison and further in view of European Patent No. EP0876071 to Hardouin. Claims 29-31 were allowed and claims 27-28 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the current amendment claims 18 and 28 have been amended and claim 27 has been cancelled. Claims 18-21, and 28-31 are currently pending.